CALFED Management Team Meeting Tuesday, October 22, 1996

Summary of Meeting and Actions

Restoration Coordination

Program Funding

A 5-year implementation budget projection was presented and will be sent to all CALFED agencies. A cover memo will be prepared explaining the reasons and methods used for the projections. The projection assumes that 1) approval process for implementation would be expedited, 2) actions can fit with any of the three alternatives, and 3) money can be shifted between the four program areas, not just ecosystem restoration. All the actions are consistent with what was developed for the Workshop #4 package.

Completion of 1996 Funding Cycle

Proposal review for Category III funding will begin in late October. The Category III Steering Committee will make the final funding decisions on November 22. Cindy Darling will set up a meeting with CALFED liaisons before then to see if there is agreement on projects to be funded.

Ecosystem Roundtable

The first Ecosystem Roundtable meeting will be held on November 8, 1996 from 1 pm to 3:30 pm, in Room 1206, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento. Concerns regarding overhead, control of treasury, and contracting functions still need to be resolved. The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is being considered as a funding mechanism.

The issue of data collection and analysis was discussed. IEP has shifted focus to short-term, real-time monitoring, but CALFED also needs long-term data trend analysis. Integration of IEP and CALFED monitoring programs will need to be discussed in the next Management Team meeting. It was suggested that this also be discussed in the IEP annual budget meeting on October 30.

Restoration Fund Roundtable

Stakeholders are setting up a working group to establish a new and less formal group than the originally proposed FACA group.

Baseline Definition

In defining the baseline for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, issues relating to the No-Action Alternative should be separated from the annual operating plan. It was suggested that an interim operating procedure be developed to avoid conflict every fall regarding spring fish flow make-up water. The Bureau will work with stakeholders to produce a one page description of a process.

CALFED Implementation Issues

Dredge Reuse Issue

Some levee improvement and habitat creation require fill material. With careful evaluation, a large amount of dredge material can be put to such beneficial use. Issues facing this effort are: 1) costs for transporting dredge material to reuse sites are not budgeted; 2) 401 water quality certification delays; 3) short window of opportunity in spring needs to be expanded; and 4) a HCP or Section 7 type of consultation would be needed. An issue paper will be prepared describing the issues related to beneficial reuse of dredge material and what needs to be done. This paper should be presented to CALFED and LTMS.

Fish Screen Activities

There is a need to bring together policy and technical expertise to resolve the issues concerning development of criteria for large fish screens. There is a need to designate a group to see if a common set of criteria and assurances can be developed for smaller screens on a geographical basis.

CALFED will prepare a memo identifying fish screen issues to be resolved and send to Ron Bachman at CVPIA.

Overall Schedule

The time period for common program development will be extended from October to December. CALFED will make every effort to keep the scheduled date for final Programmatic EIR/EIS. We will reevaluate the schedule again in the next Management Team meeting.

Time Value of Water

While there is general acceptance the concept of time value of water there is a reluctance on the part of agency staff in specifying the time value. CALFED is developing another draft document for more general review.